

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed on January 29, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deschepper (U.S. Patent No. 6,070,215) in view of Meiyappan (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,670). Claims 2 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 2 was redrafted as an independent claim to include the limitations of claim 1. Claim 6 was redrafted as an independent claim to include the limitations of claim 5. Claims 1 and 5 have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing changes, it is submitted that claims 2 and 6 are allowable over the prior art of record. Moreover, the multiple dependency clauses of claims 3 and 4 have been amended, such that claims 3 and 4 now depend only from claim 2. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are allowable for the reasons discussed above in connection with claim 2.

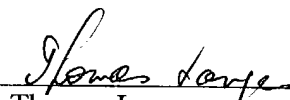
The Examiner indicated that the specification should include section headings as provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b). The specification has been revised, where necessary, to provide appropriate section headings.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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